

# The Sydney Morning Herald.

No. 10,751.—VOL. LXVI.

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SYDNEY.

BIRTHS.  
On the 21st October, at her residence, Broadway, Seton Forest, Mrs. WALTER MORRIS, of a son.  
On the 21st October, at her residence, Captain House, Wollongong, the wife of Mr. C. E. FAIRFAX, Esq., a daughter.  
On the 21st October, at Denmark Lodge, Glen Height, the wife of John FINSILLER CLARKE, of a daughter.  
On the 21st October, at her residence, 115, York-street, Mr. HENRY STANLEY O'KEEFE, of a daughter.  
On the 21st October, at her residence, Manor Cottage, Cleveland-street, Redfern, Mrs. J. W. WILSON, of a daughter.  
On the 21st October, at her residence, East St. Leonards, the wife of William WILLIAMS, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 18th October, at Canterbury-leisure, Enmore Road, by Rev. Mr. C. KENT, Rector, eldest son of Mr. ROBERT ANDREWS, Sydney, to JEANIE PARKER, eldest daughter of the late ANTHONY KENNEDY, of Rank N & W., Brisbane, and daughter of Mr. A. W. Webb, Hunter River. The bridegroom is a son of Mr. THOMAS ATKINS, Maitland, Nelson, Eliza, and daughter of Mr. THOMAS ATKINS, Maitland, Nelson, Eliza.

On the 18th October, at her residence, St. Peter's Church, Sydney, by Rev. Mr. G. H. COOPER, Harry HOLDWORTH, to Lucy, daughter of the late SAMUEL JONES, Parahus Lodge, Surry Hills.

DEATHS.

On the 17th August, at her residence, St. Germain Les Belles, Biarritz, France, MARIE ANNE DUNSTON, aged 63 years, sister of Mr. H. DUNSTON, of George-street, Sydney. Requested in his deathbed.

On the 18th October, at Sydney, of chronic disease, JOHN LEE, a native of Amoy, now residing in Liverpool, England. For freight or passage apply to RABONE, PEZZI, and CO., Weymouth-street.

On the 18th October, at her residence, Ferndale, Newtown, Mr. WILLIAM LEVENS, aged 22 years.

SHIPPING.

THE AUSTRALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S STEAMERS.  
TO MELBOURNE.—Ramsden, to-morrow afternoon, at 1 P.M., 1. FARES: Saloon at current rates; steerage, £1 10s.

TO AUCKLAND.—Steamer early, to-morrow night, to return at 11; and Collingwood, Monday night at 11.

TO BRISBANE.—City of Brisbane, to-morrow, Saturday, at noon.

TO MARYBOROUGH.—Steamer early.

TO ROCKHAMPTON.—Engaged, or on about: Wednesdays.

TO CLEVELAND BAY, via Port Denison.—Boomerang, or about Friday, 15th instant.

CARGO is now being received for transmission to any of the SHIPS, or are requested to complete their shipments to Hobart and Queensland before 3 o'clock on day of sailing.

FREDK. H. TROUTON, Manager.

A. S. Co.'s Wharf, Swan-street.

TO MELBOURNE.—Ramsden, to-morrow afternoon, at 1 P.M., 1. FARES.

TO MELBOURNE, &c., etc.

TO THE GOLD COAST, on the 15th instant.

TO MELBOURNE, &c., etc.

TO THE CLARENCE RIVER GOLD FIELDS.

TO GRAFTON, CLARENCE RIVER direct.—The Ballina, TO-MORROW NIGHT, SATURDAY.

TO THE FIRE KING, MONDAY NIGHT, 12.

W. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

From street.

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS AND SHIPPERS.

TO THE CLARENCE RIVER GOLD FIELDS.

TO THE FIRE KING, MONDAY NIGHT, 12.

W. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

From street.

REDUCTION OF FARES.

THE MELBOURNE STEAMSHIP COMPANY will

charge the following fares:

DANDEMON.

THIS DAY, Friday, November 1st, at 2 o'clock p.m.

FARES:

Saloon ..... £3 0 0  
Ditto, Return ..... 5 10 0  
Stateroom ..... 1 10 0

THE SALOON IS AMENDED.

The attention of second-class passengers is directed to the accommodation provided in the above vessel, with reduced rates for females and families.

WM. HOWARD SMITH, Struth's Wharf.

STEAM TO NEWCASTLE.

The MELBOURNE STEAMSHIP COMPANY will

charge the following fares:

MACEDON.

MONDAY, November 4th, at 2 o'clock p.m.

FARES:

Saloon ..... 10s  
Stateroom ..... 5s  
WM. HOWARD SMITH, Struth's Wharf.

STEAM TO NEW ZEALAND.

WM. HOWARD SMITH, Struth's Wharf.

## LAW.

BATHURST CIRCUIT COURT.  
Before Sir Alfred Stephen, C.J., and a jury of twelve.  
(Abridged from the *Bathurst Times*)

Richard Spender was indicted for that he did, on the 3d day of August, 1872, at Ophir, kill and murder one Charles Corse.

Prisoner was defended by Mr. Dally, instructed by Mr. Macleod.

The Solicitor-General opened the case for the Crown. He said the facts were that in August last the prisoner, Richard Spender, lived at Ophir, a goldfield near Orange, and the deceased, Charles Corse, resided in the place on Saturday, the 3d August, about 6 p.m., at his residence. According to a statement made by the prisoner, Corse came to the house about 4 p.m. in the afternoon, and was accompanied by his son, a boy of about 12 years old, and the deceased used some very offensive language towards Spender. After this the prisoner sent a boy for a gun. It seemed that Spender had no such weapon of his own, and he had often borrowed the gun before, and there was no reason to suppose that he would have done so, except the fact that he had previously threatened to shoot Corse, the circumstances might assume a very different aspect, he gun was not loaded when it was brought to Spender, but it would be shown that he had loaded it during the absence of Corse, who had been away for a week or two, and had not again returned. Upon returning he asked for a drink, and was taking a cup of tea, had been prepared for him by a servant named Mrs. Wright, when the prisoner told the latter that she and her husband would have to leave the service, and charged Corse and his son to do the same, and despatched them on their way, and soon afterwards him, and while Corse was standing in the kitchen, prisoner shot his hand.

This first witness was called by the Solicitor-General.

Mr. Warden, a sub-inspector of police, gave the following evidence:

"I was at Ophir on Saturday evening, the 3d August, I saw the deceased Charles Corse, about 4 o'clock, in the afternoon, and he was in a very bad temper, and I asked him what he was doing, he said, 'I am going to shoot Spender,' and I said, 'What for?' he said, 'I have been threatening to do so.'

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## TAINE'S NOTES ON ENGLAND.

The July number of the *Quarterly Review* contains a very remarkable article by Mr. Taine, recently published, "Notes on England." It is a work of great interest that Frenchmen do not understand Englishmen. Their criticisms on English manners, customs, and characteristics are commonly more amusing than instructive. We ought not to be surprised at this, for nothing could well be wider of the truth than that the ideas respecting even the Americans which for a long time were held by probably an immense majority of Englishmen and which they seemed to have learned from English books on America. The ordinary "John Bull," was supposed to be a "cute enterprising person whose talk consisted largely of extravagant hyperbole and quaint jocundities after the manner of Sam Slick, or the American in "Mugby Junction." At last these notions have been dissipated, and we are now assured that more prosaic matter-of-fact people than the inhabitants of the United States are nowhere to be found. We are told, however, that the bulk of the Americans do not "give a damn" and "calculate," or spit at the end of every other sentence. It is not of course to be expected that Frenchmen will very soon attain to similar accuracy in their ideas of English manners, customs, and characteristics; but if they are at all anxious to do so, M. Taine will perhaps render them some little help. He is undoubtedly a very acute observer, and has written a sound work on an English subject—"A History of English Literature"; and in his "notes" he has, the *Quarterly* tells us, "evidently struggled hard to shake off the weaknesses of his countrymen." It must be admitted, however, that he has done this in some cases with but indifferent success. He is given to making hasty generalizations on very inadequate examinations of facts; and in his estimate of English politics he is really quite indifferent in employing any but a French standard of comparison, though he is obviously not blind to the fact that the contrast is sometimes in favour of the English. Take for instance these five sketches:—

"Other figures in the boat. Two young couples, who remain on deck covered with wrappings, under umbrellas. A long downpour has begun: they remain seated; in the end they were drenched like sponges. This was in order that the husband and wife should not be separated by going below to eat."

"Another young wife, suffering much from seasickness: her husband, who had the look of a merchant's clerk, took her in his arms, supported her, tried to read to her, tendered her with a freedom and expression of infinite tenderness."

"Two young girls of fifteen and sixteen, who speak German and French, and who, with their accent, large restless eyes, large white teeth; they chatter and laugh with perfect unconstraint, with admirable pertinacity of friendly gayety; not the slightest trace of coquetry, none of our nice little tricks which have been learned and done on purpose; they never think about the onlookers."

"A lady of forty in spectacles, beside her husband, in a worn-out dress, with relics of feminine ornaments, expressing a certain want of taste, and a certain and most ludicrous, a *Frenz-hausen, even-middled-aged, never forgets to adjust herself—arrange her dress.*"

"Patience and phlegm of a tall dry Englishman, who has not moved from his seat, has taken but a single turn, who has spoken to no one, who suffices to himself. As a contrast, three Frenchmen, who put random questions, make half-hazard assertions, grow impatient, get irascible, and make puns somewhat carelessly. They sit on hands-me-downs, and are as ugly as ever."

The comment of the reviewer is that these groups are taken as representative, and that "each of them eventually, if unconsciously, supplies the key-note to a chapter or a carefully illustrated or expanded note." Perhaps it is an allowable exaggeration of his to suggest that M. Taine arrives at the "peculiarities and tendencies of speech from half-a-dozen examples, as surely as Professor Owen would infer the shape and habits of a species from a dozen specimens."

M. Taine is greatly distressed by the Puritanism of England. It is not necessary to follow him and his English critic through the Sabbath question, but it may be amusing to look for a moment at the curious effect of a wet Sunday in London on the Frenchman.—

"Sunday in London in the rain: the shops were shut, the streets almost deserted; the people in that of course, were all in church. The few passers-by under their umbrellas, in the desert of squares and streets, have the look of uneasy spirits who have risen from their graves: it is appalling! I had no reason why it should not continue to the end of all things. One's feet chaffed water; there is water everywhere—why not?—and the shopkeepers, who have the same sort of careful soul about cleanliness, but nothing more, are not attractive; one soon wears beside her fancy a very beautiful pink peach, slightly juicy, and alongside of a perfumed strawberry, full of flavor."

M. Taine has not been impressed with an Englishwoman's capacity for shining in social life. He says: "The English woman is not a creature to please; she appears to accommodate herself to persons and things to vary a greeting, comprehend a hint, insinuate praise, make each guest think that he feels his presence of much consequence. She is affable only, she merely possesses kindness and serenity. For myself, I desire nothing more, and I can imagine nothing better. But it is clear that a woman of the world—that is to say, a person who has been educated, who has been trained and valued by distinguished persons of every species—requires to have a more varied and a more delicate talent."

The reviewer, however, sternly declines to accept this estimate, and says that "the talent in question has been possessed and displayed by many Englishwomen," and mentions Lady Palmerston as an example.

The author's descriptions of the style of dress of English ladies, are amusing. He was struck, for instance, in a Paris dressing-room with a young lady related to a "rather great English personage"—her father, by-the-way, was a "stout red-faced bald man."

English, and knows France well, allows that their love-matches end more than once in discord, and our marriages of arrangement in concert."

The effects of the English climate on the national temperament and character, M. Taine finds to be varied and marked. It not only conduces to rigidity of Sabbath observance and to puritanism generally, blunts the senses, and destroys in a man's nature every tendency to the aesthetic—producing, in some cases, it would seem, a proneness to suicide, and leads to the development of a superlative form of insanity.

A poor person is not wretched in the South. He obtains the most beautiful and the best things gratis, the necessities of life next to nothing. So many things which are necessities in the North he does not need. Abundance of nourishment, artificial light, fire, a well-protected dwelling, warm clothing, frequent changes of linen, and much more.

There is a painfu1ness in the English climate, which is the opposite of the French custom, when the man would consider it indecent to utter a single curse, or vague phrase to the young girl before having spoken to her, and the mother, in particular, of fault with us, to ridicule our marriage, amicably settled before a lawyer. Yet C., who is English, and knows France well, allows that their love-matches end more than once in discord, and our marriages of arrangement in concert."

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It is related of the well-known "Davy Crockett" that while looking at a monkey in a menagerie, he said, "That monkey looks exactly like old \_\_\_\_\_.  
mentioning the name of a friend, in his rough, but jocular way. A loud laugh caused Crockett to look around, and there, close to him, stood the friend whom he had made the subject of his not very complimentary remark. But as Davy Crockett, immediately said, "I guess you're an apology to somebody—just a fool."  
Then he looked quizzically, first at his friend and then at the monkey, and added, "Tell me which one to apologize to, and I'll do it right off."

This was greeted by a still heavier laugh, in which the offended party joined, and so the affair passed off.

It was of no use to be angry with a man like the backwoodsman, who had no malice in his nature and no

helped myself to some of a second dish; it was devilled, and fitted for skinning the tongue.

The effects of the diet, or the diet and climate together, on the physique of the Englishman are bad, "Adopting," says the *Quarterly*, "some stings from Mr. Freud, he calls the English a highly-bred race, sound in body and fierce in spirit, and furnished with tawes and sinews which, under the stimulus of those great shins of beef, their common diet, were the wonder of the age."

English physi: it seems as gross as English food. It might be thinks, be compounded for French houses, "if you take a chemist for a purger, he calms to you; an Englishman often feels it by him, and takes a pill of it when his head feels rather heavy."

The combined effects of climate, food, drink, and apparel are seen in the admitted characteristics of Englishmen. M. Taine seems hardly satisfied with them, as he appears to endorse a not very flattering report of a correspondent of his:

"The English did not, when I was there, have the sense of most significance in England, and by means of which I figure to myself English liberty. These people have water mixed with their blood, exactly as their cattle are deficient in juice. Compare the picture of St. Leonard with those of the English. That is why they are allowed to combine together to brawl, to print what they please. They are prima facie, cold-blooded, and with a sluggish circulation."

Let us turn the human outcome of heavy diet, fog, and coarse physi: has some good features. For instance—

"A French officer who fought in the Crimea related to me how an English battalion of infantry destroyed two Russian regiments; the Russians fired incessantly and did not lose a foot of ground, but they were driven back, and driven back, until the English infantry avoided under hasty attack, took command, and missed scarcely a single shot. The human being is ten times stronger when his pulse continues calm and when his judgment remains free."

This is worth remembering in the choice of a climate and of diet; though in England the effect of these agents in the formation of the physical characteristics of the people seems in some respects to be less manifest than respects the English, and probably most Englishmen suppose. M. Taine asks his readers to look at the foot coverings (chausses) and the feet of the ladies. Their boots are as large as those of gentlemen, their feet are those of watermen, and their gait is in keeping."

A set-off against this, however, may be seen in Rotten Row:—

"Many of the housewives are charming, so simple, so graceful without a trace of coquetry; they come home not to see, but to take the air; their manner is frank, without pretension; their shake of the hand quite loyal, almost masculine; no frippery in their attire; the small test, tightened at the waist, moulds (moires) in fine shape and healthy form; to my mind the first duty of a young girl is to be good health."

Still, M. Taine seems unable to get over the feeling that the English girls are too rude; they take too much exercise; at any rate, their physical strength is acquired and maintained at some expense of grace and femininity. The summing up of his observations on English-women—in which he compares them with his countrywomen—will hardly be considered satisfactory on either side of the Channel:—

"An Englishwoman is more thoroughly beautiful and healthy than a Frenchwoman. The principal cause of this is the hygiene; the ride on horseback, are much in the open air, do not dance with their parents, do not eat sweetsmeats. Moreover, the nerves are less excited, and the temperament is calmer, more enduring, less exacting. What is the most wearing in these days are instant and unsatisfied desires.

On the other hand, the Englishwoman is less agreeable; she does not dress for her husband, she does not know how to make a pretty woman of herself; she has no talent for rendering herself fascinating and enticing at the first sight; she is unacquainted with a number of fine and delicate graces; she considers it unworthy of her to appear to the world in such a state of undress; she is not a sudden, the day after, a great cry in the churchyard. Also, the ladies of the laity run together with the monks; draw water, brandish axes, mount ladders, eager to succor Christ Church, just now on the point of destruction. They reached the roof, and behind all was filled with a horrible smoke and a scorching flame; in despair, finding a free passage, increased extremely the fury of the inner flames; and a sudden, the day after, a great cry in the churchyard. 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